
Subject: Function graphics axis range - how to get it consistently?

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Fri, 28 Feb 2014 16:37:15 GMT

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Hello,

I'm plotting a simple time series (of program execution times) and, at certain times, I want to indicate an occurrence (e.g. rebuild, optimisation, etc).

I want to indicate this occurrence with a vertical dashed line that spans the entire yrange of the completed plot.

Here is how I plot the actual data:

```
FOR i = 0L, n_times-1L DO BEGIN
  tp[i] = PLOT( date_time, timing[*,i], $
    TITLE='Host : ' + host + '!C' + $
    'CRTM root : ' + crtm_root + '!C' + $
    'Sensor Id : ' + sensor_id + '!C' + $
    'CRTM version : ' + crtm_version + '!C' + $
    'Current Date : ' + SYSTIME(), $
    XTITLE='Date', $
    YTITLE='Run time (sec.)', $
    XTICKFORMAT='LABEL_DATE', $
    MARGIN=[0.1,0.1,0.25,0.15], $
    DIMENSIONS=[xsize,ysize], $
    COLOR=color[i], $
    THICK=2, $
    FONT_SIZE=9, $
    SYMBOL='diamond', $
    OVERPLOT=i, $
    NAME=legend_strings[i], $
    BUFFER=buffer )
ENDFOR
I = LEGEND( TARGET=tp, $
  ORIENTATION=0, $
  FONT_SIZE=7, $
  HORIZONTAL_ALIGNMENT='CENTER', $
  VERTICAL_ALIGNMENT='CENTER', $
  POSITION=[0.91,0.5] )
```

No worries. Works great. I then do the following to plot the vertical line and an associated text string if there is a comment associated with any of the dates/times:

```
idx = WHERE(STRLEN(comment) GT 0, n_comments)
```

```

print, tp[0].YRANGE
IF ( n_comments GT 0 ) THEN BEGIN
  FOR i = 0, n_comments-1 DO BEGIN
    c = PLOT( [date_time[idx[i]],date_time[idx[i]]], tp[0].YRANGE, $
      XTICKFORMAT='LABEL_DATE', $
      LINESTYLE='dashed', $
      /OVERPLOT, $
      BUFFER=buffer )
    t = TEXT( date_time[idx[i]], (tp[0].YRANGE)[1], $
      comment[idx[i]], $
      FONT_SIZE=7, $
      /DATA, $
      TARGET=tp[0], $
      ALIGNMENT=0.5, $
      VERTICAL_ALIGNMENT=1.0 )
  ENDFOR
ENDIF

```

Note that in the PLOT() command I'm using tp[0].YRANGE to specify the, well, yrange of the vertical line, and in the TEXT() command I'm using (tp[0].YRANGE)[1] to position the text at the top of the line.

When I run the above code I get the following output from the "print, tp[0].YRANGE" command:

```
0.0000000    350.00000
```

(also note that tp[0].AXIS_RANGE is [0,0])

BUT, my plot looks like this:

ftp://ftp.emc.ncep.noaa.gov/jcsda/CRTM/timing/emc-lw-pvandel.trunk.amsua_metop-a.v2_2_0-alpha.timing.png

As you can see (I hope) the ACTUAL y-axis range is [0,400], not [0,350]. Additionally, while the vertical line plot only goes up to 350 the TEXT() output, which should also be positioned at 350 since it uses the same yrange data, is actually positioned at 400 - the "true" maximum yrange value.

WTF?

So I have two questions:

- 1) How does one get the ACTUAL yrange values used in a plot?
- 2) Why does the TEXT() function position the text differently than the PLOT() function plots when the same YRANGE property is being used?

Am I doing something wrong here or, as I'm beginning to suspect, is the random number generator at the heart of Function Graphics funnin' with me?

cheers,

paulv

Subject: Re: Function graphics axis range - how to get it consistently?

Posted by [Matthew Argall](#) on Fri, 28 Feb 2014 16:50:41 GMT

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I think you want to set YStyle = 1... Let me know if that works.

Subject: Re: Function graphics axis range - how to get it consistently?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 28 Feb 2014 17:15:03 GMT

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Matthew Argall writes:

> I think you want to set YStyle = 1... Let me know if that works.

Yeah, my first thought is there is a yrange and ycrange and that function graphics is not handling those two things consistently.

But, I like the random number theory, too. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: Function graphics axis range - how to get it consistently?

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Fri, 28 Feb 2014 18:06:10 GMT

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Hi Matthew,

On 02/28/14 11:50, Matthew Argall wrote:

> I think you want to set YStyle = 1... Let me know if that works.

I tried that and it "works" in that it does what I understand Ystyle=1 should do: force the axis range to be exactly that of the data.

But I don't want that.

I just want the axis properties (sans usage of Ystyle) to agree with their manifestation. Otherwise, what's the point?

To paraphrase Inigo Montoya, regarding the property YRANGE:
"You keep using that word. I do not think it means what you think it means."

Sigh. Looks like my colleagues win (again, dammit). Anaconda[*] is my next step.

cheers,

paulv

[*] <https://store.continuum.io/cshop/anaconda/>

Subject: Re: Function graphics axis range - how to get it consistently?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 28 Feb 2014 18:18:27 GMT

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Paul van Delst writes:

> To paraphrase Inigo Montoya, regarding the property YRANGE:
> "You keep using that word. I do not think it means what you think it means."

It has been one of those days. (Well, honestly, it has been one of those weeks.) I finally got a chance to take a shower a few minutes ago and I was thinking as the hot water splashed over me, that as long as I was asking philosophical questions that remain unanswered, here is another. When you say:

"For the record, I use FG pretty much exclusively.
I think they're great."

Do you mean great from an "idea" perspective? Or do you mean great from a "practical" perspective? Because I find them to be a long, long way from "great". Sometimes I don't understand what reality I live in. Blame the ganja wafting over me from all quarters now, I guess. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: Function graphics axis range - how to get it consistently?

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Fri, 28 Feb 2014 18:34:05 GMT

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Oh my God, check this out:

I added print statements before and after the various plot/text calls like so:

```
print, tp[0].YRANGE
  c = PLOT( [date_time[idx[i]],date_time[idx[i]]], tp[0].YRANGE, $
    XTICKFORMAT='LABEL_DATE', $
    LINESTYLE='dashed', $
    /OVERPLOT, $
    BUFFER=buffer )
print, tp[0].YRANGE
  t = TEXT( date_time[idx[i]], (tp[0].YRANGE)[1], $
    comment[idx[i]], $
    FONT_SIZE=7, $
    /DATA, $
    TARGET=tp[0], $
    ALIGNMENT=0.5, $
    VERTICAL_ALIGNMENT=1.0 )
print, tp[0].YRANGE
```

This is the output:

```
0.0000000    350.00000
0.0000000    400.00000
0.0000000    400.00000
```

So the PLOT() command uses the "busted" YRANGE property value, but doing so "fixes" it.

WTF?

I give up.

On 02/28/14 13:18, David Fanning wrote:

> Paul van Delst writes:

>

>> To paraphrase Inigo Montoya, regarding the property YRANGE:

>> "You keep using that word. I do not think it means what you think it means."

>

> It has been one of those days. (Well, honestly, it has been one of those
> weeks.) I finally got a chance to take a shower a few minutes ago and I
> was thinking as the hot water splashed over me, that as long as I was
> asking philosophical questions that remain unanswered, here is another.
> When you say:
>
> "For the record, I use FG pretty much exclusively.
> I think they're great."
>
> Do you mean great from an "idea" perspective? Or do you mean great from
> a "practical" perspective? Because I find them to be a long, long way
> from "great". Sometimes I don't understand what reality I live in. Blame
> the ganja wafting over me from all quarters now, I guess. :-)

Albert Einstein — 'In theory, theory and practice are the same. In
practice, they are not.'

Grr argghh!

Subject: Re: Function graphics axis range - how to get it consistently?
Posted by [chris_torrence@NOSPAM](#) on Fri, 28 Feb 2014 19:00:03 GMT
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On Friday, February 28, 2014 11:34:05 AM UTC-7, Paul van Delst wrote:

> Oh my God, check this out:
>
>
>
> I added print statements before and after the various plot/text calls
>
> like so:
>
>
>
> print, tp[0].YRANGE
>
> c = PLOT([date_time[idx[i]],date_time[idx[i]]], tp[0].YRANGE, \$
>
> XTICKFORMAT='LABEL_DATE', \$
>
> LINESTYLE='dashed', \$
>
> /OVERPLOT, \$
>
> BUFFER=buffer)
>
> print, tp[0].YRANGE

```

>
> t = TEXT( date_time[idx[i]], (tp[0].YRANGE)[1], $
>
>     comment[idx[i]], $
>
>     FONT_SIZE=7, $
>
>     /DATA, $
>
>     TARGET=tp[0], $
>
>     ALIGNMENT=0.5, $
>
>     VERTICAL_ALIGNMENT=1.0 )
>
> print, tp[0].YRANGE
>
>
>
>
> This is the output:
>
>
>
>     0.0000000    350.00000
>
>     0.0000000    400.00000
>
>     0.0000000    400.00000
>
>
>
>
> So the PLOT() command uses the "busted" YRANGE property value, but doing
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> so "fixes" it.
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>
> WTF?
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>
>
> I give up.
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>
> On 02/28/14 13:18, David Fanning wrote:

```

>
>> Paul van Delst writes:
>
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>
>
>
> Albert Einstein -- 'In theory, theory and practice are the same. In
>
> practice, they are not.'
>
>
>
> Grr argghh!

Hi Paul,

I don't think you need to use a PLOT to do your dashed line. When you do an overplot, it's going to try to update the range to fit your new plot line. Instead, you could just use a polyline:

```
IDL> p = plot(/test, xrange=[0,250], yrange=[-1,2])  
IDL> p1 = polyline([200,200],p.yrange, /data, linestyle='dashed')
```

Hope this helps.

Cheers,

Chris
